

## **MINUTES**

**Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors  
Robert E. Lee Building  
239 North Lamar Street, Suite 402  
Jackson, MS 39201**

**Special Called Board Meeting  
Thursday, December 21, 2017  
(Via Teleconference)**

### **Board Members Present**

Dr. Juawice McCormick, Chair, Congressional District IV  
Dr. Aretha Hargrove-Edwards, Congressional District II  
Dr. Richard Strebeck, Congressional District-At-Large

### **Others Present**

Wm. Jeffrey Jernigan, Board Attorney, Special Assistant Attorney General  
LeeAnn Mordecai, Board Executive Director  
Lee Ann Mayo, MCA Lobbyist, Capitol Resources, LLC

### **Board Members Absent**

Dr. Kimberly Elam Sallis, Congressional District I  
Steven Rollins Stafford, Congressional District III

## **I. Call to Order**

The Special Called meeting of the Mississippi State Board of Examiners for Licensed Professional Counselors ("Board") was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Dr. Juawice McCormick, Chair ("Chair") on Thursday, December 21, 2017. The Special Called meeting was held via teleconference for the purpose of discussing the proposal legislative agenda to amend *Section 73-30-1* and *Section 73-30-3, Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated* and *Rule 7.2: Exemption from Licensure*. The proposed changes will be presented by Senator Dean Kirby (R-Pearl) as House Bill 708 on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, during the 2018 Legislative Session. Connections were provided through Century Link Conferencing. A roll call of Board members was taken and a quorum participated.

## **II. Board Operations**

### **A. Legislative Agenda Updates**

Mayo informed the Board that Dr. David J. Dzielack resigned as Executive Director of the Mississippi Division of Medicaid on Wednesday, December 20, 2017. Governor Phil Bryant appointed Drew Snyder as the Interim Director. LPCs who bill Medicaid for services rendered might find this information helpful.

Mayo also informed the Board that Governor Bryant has created a three-person advisory panel to serve licensure boards, Occupational Licensing Review Committee.

Mayo intends to meet with Representative Sam C. Mims, V (R-McComb), Senator Dean Kirby (R-Pearl), and Bob Davidson (Attorney) to review the proposed legislation.

Mayo disconnected from the conference call at 9:51 a.m.

**B. Request for Reinstatement of License**

The Board resumed discussion of a request from a counselor for licensure reinstatement. The Board will examine continuing education hours submitted for ethics credit. It was motioned by Strebeck, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously agreed to table the decision until the Board meets on Tuesday, January 23, 2018.

**C. 2017-20 and 2017-21**

Strebeck provided an update on his findings regarding those complaints.

**III. Review of Licensure Application - Executive Session**

It was motioned by Strebeck, seconded by Hargrove-Edwards, and unanimously agreed that the Board consider a motion to close the regular conference call to determine the necessity of an Executive Session. The Board determined that an Executive Session was needed to discuss possible fraudulent information provided by an applicant for license renewal. It was motioned by Strebeck, seconded by Hargrove-Edwards, and unanimously agreed that the Board enter into Executive Session.

The Board entered Executive Session at 10:35 a.m.

Attorney Jernigan connected to the conference call at 10:41 a.m.

It was motioned by Strebeck, seconded by McCormick, and unanimously agreed that the Board issue an Order of Complaint against the counselor in question and assign to a Board member to investigate.

It was motioned by Hargrove-Edwards, seconded by Strebeck, and unanimously agreed that the Board exit Executive Session.

The Board exited Executive Session at 10:59 a.m.

#### **IV. Next Meeting**

##### Regular Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.

Robert E. Lee Building

239 North Lamar Street, Suite 402

Jackson, MS 39201

#### **V. Adjourn**

It was motioned by Strebeck, seconded by Hargrove-Edwards, and unanimously agreed that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by McCormick at 11:05 a.m.

Approved this the 28th day of January, 2018.

/s/

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Board Chair

/s/

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Board Member